Times of India dated 30th December, 1992, stating that Kumaon region faces grave ecological imbalance due to large scale falling of trees ; and

(b) if so, whether in view of the devastations caused by the enormous earthquake that hit the Uttarkashi region last year, Government have taken any effective steps to prevent further degradation of the forests in the area, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No large scale destruction and denudation of forests is reported in the Kumaon Range of the Himalayas. Steps taken by the Government to prevent degradation of forests in the area are :

(i) Government of Uttar Pradesh has banned felling of green trees above 1000 m altitude in hilly and mountainious regions.

(ii) The forests (conservation) Act, 1980 was enacted to check the diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes.

(iii) Guidelines have also been issued to States to involve village communities in protection of forests on usufruct basis.

(iv) The G. B. Pant Himalayan Institute for Environment and Development is engaged in research and development studies.

Tiger population under Project Tiger

1746. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :

SMT. VEENA VERMA :

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the success achieved in protecting preserving and promoting the Tiger population under 'Project Tiger' decade-wise; and the latest State-wise Tiger population figures;

(b) the expenditure incurred on this project since the project was undertaken; and

(c) the precise steps taken and being taken to achieve the objectives of this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) A statement is attached. [*See* below]

(b) The total central assistance released from 1973 till date is Rs. 43.078 crores.

(c) The steps taken to attain the objectives of the project are as under :

(*i*) Intensification of management.

(ii) Improvement of infrastructure.

(ii) Development of Communication facilities.

(iv) Habitat improvement works undertaken.

(v) Development of water facilities.

(vi) Works under Eco-development scheme have been initiated.

(vii) Undertaking Education and awareness programme.

Statement

The tiger population registered steady rise in the Tiger Reserves as per details as under:

Year	No. of Tiger Reserves	Tiger Population
1972 . .	9	268
1979 . .	11	711
1987 . .	17	1221
1989 . .	18	1327

The state-wise estimated population as Tiger population of Tiger as per 1989 census is as hereunder:

Tamilnadu	95
Maharashtra	417
Kerala	45
West Bengal	353
Orissa	243
Karnataka	257
Bihar	157
Assam	376
Rajasthan	99
Madhya Pradesh	985
Uttar Pradesh	735
Andhra Pradesh	235
Himachal Pradesh	—
Meghalaya	34
Pondicherry	—
Manipur	31
Tripura	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—
Mizoram	18
Nagaland	104
Arunachal Pradesh	135
Sikkim	4
Gujarat	9
Delhi	—
Haryana	—
Punjab	—
Lakshadweep	—
Goa, Daman & Diu	2
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—
Chandigarh U.T.	—
Jammu &Kashmir	—
	4334

Corbett National Park

1747. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
SHRI KAMAL MORARKA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that certain private airways have been bringing tourists and poachers in helicopters to the Corbett National Park surreptiously and without permission;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such helicopter of the Indian International Airways Pvt. Ltd., was recently seized by the port authorities;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Illegal landing of helicopters in Corbett Tiger Reserve have been noticed. However, its linkage in bringing tourists and poachers has so far not been established.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The helicopters alongwith two trucks and two motor boats used in salvage operation without permission have been seized.

(d) This Ministry has taken up this matter with Government of Uttar Pradesh and Civil Aviation Authority of Government of India to enquire into the issue and take appropriate action as per relevant acts and rules in force.

वन भूमि का सीमांकन

1748. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी सोलंकी** : क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गुजरात राज्य में वनों के लिये कुल कितनी भूमि सीमांकित की गई और वास्तव में कितना भू-क्षेत्र वनाच्छादित है;

(ख) सीमांकित वन भूमि और वनों के बारे में अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर स्थिति क्या है;

(ग) गुजरात राज्य में वानिकी की समस्या के कारण स्वीकृति हेतु लम्बित परियोजनाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है; और